(ख) क्या शीरा के निर्यात को प्रतिबंधित करने का विचार है ?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री जे० वेंगल राव) : (क) जी, नहीं । फिलहाल ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

(ख) जी, नहीं, लेकिन इस समय शीरे का कोई निर्यात नहीं किया जा रहा है ।

Monopoly production of Vitamin D3

2729. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3122 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th December, 1987 and state:

(a) when there is only one producer of Vitamin D 3, how and on what basis the Kelkar Committee recommended for price decontrol;

(b) how the interest of public is safeguarded by decontrolling the price of the drug being produced by only one producer, who is enjoying the monopoly; and

(c) how far it is in line with the criteria of the Kelkar Committee and objectives of the Drugs Price Control Order and the Essential Commodities Act?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The Kelkar Committee had recommended that all Vitamins only when used in combination for formulations, should come under Category II for price control. Keeping this recommendation in view all vitamins, as bulk drugs, have been exempted from price control.

Alternative sources of energy

2730. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experts have considered the view that the Ocean is the ans to solve the energy crisis in the ntry;

(b) whether any scientific research has been made for the use of non-conventional sources of energy like energy from tidal waves and [illegible]; and

(c) if so, whether such an [illegible] will be commercially viable in [illegible] the energy crisis in the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE [illegible] DEPARTMENT OF POWER [illegible] MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) Ocean energy can be harnessed in three different ways, namely by utilising the energy of ocean tides, by utilising the temperature difference between water at the ocean surface and at [illegible] depths and energy contained in waves. The Central Electricity Authority is conducting studies and investigations to assess the techno-economic feasibility of a tidal power project in the Gulf of Kutch. Preliminary research has been undertaken in the country on harnessing of wave energy and also on ocean thermal energy conversion. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has been implementing a broad-based programme of Research & Development, Demonstration and Extension covering biomass, solar, wind and other non-conventional energy sources. While some non-conventional energy devices are reaching commercial viability, further R&D and cost reduction is likely to improve viability. These energy sources can play an important role particularly in rural areas and to that extent can mitigate the energy problem.

Karnali Hydel project

2731. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of [illegible] be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Karnali Hydel-multipurpose project which was conceived about 20 years ago has not shown much headway in spite of talks held by India and Nepal;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in the completion of the project and

(c) what steps the Government of India have taken for completing the project since it is going to be a multi-purpose project which would solve the energy crisis and meet the irrigation needs in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The Karnali Project is located in Nepal and is proposed to be implemented by His Majesty's Government of Nepal. HMG Nepal have appointed Consultants who are carrying out feasibility studies in connection with the Project. Government of India is extending technical assistance, as may be required, to expedite finalisation of a feasibility report and coordination meetings with Nepal are held for the purpose.

Cement production

2732. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some cement manufacturers have produced less cement during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the quantity of cement produced by each manufacturer;

(c) whether less production of cement has also adversely affected its prices in the market;

(d) if so, the extent to which the price have increased; and

(e) the targets fixed for cement production during the last year and the current year and the total quantity of cement produced last year and so far during the current year and the measures taken to achieve those targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The production of cement in the current financial year upto Jar 1988 has been less in some factories as compared to production in the corresponding period of last financial year 1986-87. The details are given in the attached Statement. [*See* Appendix CXLV, Annexure No. 97]

(c) and (d) There has been no change with regard to price of levy cement which is regulated under the provisions of the Cement Control Order. In the price of non-levy cement, which varies depending on market forces, there has been a marginal fluctuation.

(e) The financial year-wise targets and actual production for the last year and current year upto Jan. 1988 is as below:

Year	Target	Actual Production
		(In million tonnes)
1986-87	36.5	36 5
1987-88	42.5 (original) 41.5 (revised)	
(Revised pro-rata 34.58 target for 10 months April 1987 to January 1988)		32.29 (Provisional)